

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Case Type: Contract

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City of Long Lake,

Court File No. 27-CV-23-9758

Plaintiff,

The Hon. Laurie J. Miller

vs.

City of Orono,

Defendant.

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**DECLARATION OF JUSTIN HINKER**

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I, **JUSTIN HINKER**, declare under penalty of perjury per Minn. Stat. § 358.116 that the following is true and correct:

1. I have personal knowledge of the facts contained herein.
2. I am a resident of Tonka Bay.
3. I am a firefighter with the Long Lake Fire Department ("LLFD") and have been with the LLFD for approximately 2 years.
4. I was never directly approached by anyone at Orono to apply to the Fire Department.
5. I am also a firefighter for the Excelsior Fire Department.
6. I applied to the Orono Fire Department on August 8, 2023.
7. I believe I have the right to choose where I work.

8. Orono hired me on October 9, 2023. I understand it was originally planned for me to be hired on August 28, 2023, but that was delayed with mediation set for the following month.

9. I received a text from Chief Van Eyll concerning the open house on September 20, 2023. I had already decided to accept employment with the Orono Fire Department prior to receiving this text, and it played no role in my decision-making process.

10. I no longer plan to work for the LLFD because I currently work at Fire Station 2 which is only three minutes from my house whereas Fire Station 1 is 25 minutes away. It makes logical sense to me I live closer to the Fire Station I work at as a paid on-call firefighter.

**FURTHER THIS DECLARANT SAYETH NOT.**

Dated: October 25, 2023

s/Justin Hinker  
Justin Hinker

I declare under penalty of perjury, per Minn. Stat. § 358.116, that everything that I have stated in this document is true and correct.

STATE OF MINNESOTA )  
 )ss.  
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN )